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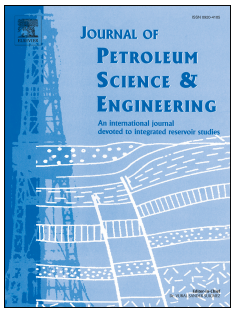

Biodegradation potential of crude petroleum by hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria isolated from Soummam wadi sediment and chemical-biological proprieties of their biosurfactants

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Biodegradation potential of crude petroleum by hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria isolated from Soummam wadi sediment and chemical-biological proprieties of their biosurfactants

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1. Introduction

Organic pollutants such as petroleum hydrocarbons contaminate the water column and sediments around the world, causing hence a considerable number of adverse effects on human health, air and water quality, ecosystem deterioration, biosystems biodiversity and food chains contamination (Stauffert, 2011). Chemical and physical treatment processes have their limits because of their cost or their secondary impact on the environment. Biological treatments technologies are currently subject of a great deal of investigations worldwide. These bioremediation technologies are mainly based on the use of microorganisms to extract, separate or degrade hydrocarbon and other organic contaminants. The diversity of bacteria involved in the biotransformation processes is very important, including both Gram-negative and Gram-positive ones and grouping together almost all phylogenetic clads (Samanta et al., 2002). These microorganisms naturally play a crucial role in the fate and degradation of hydrocarbons in ecosystems and are widely distributed in marine environments (water column and in sediments) (Técher, 2011; Barbato et al., 2016). Bacteria from soils contaminated with hydrophobic molecules often synthesize bimolecular compounds called biosurfactants, typically induced by hydrocarbon presence, allowing them to use these hydrocarbons as sources of carbon and energy.

These biosurfactants are very interesting tools in many industrial and environmental applications (Fracchia et al., 2015) and can be considered as substitutes of chemical surfactants due to their biodegradability, biocompatibility and lack of toxicity (Mulligan et al., 2014; De Almeida et al., 2016). Among the various marine bioactive compounds, microbial biosurfactants (BS) are of great importance because of their structural and functional diversity

and their industrial applications. Marine microbial biosurfactants are such metabolites with many interesting properties (Banat et al., 2010; Wicke et al., 2000). It is in this perspective that this work was conducted, where we exploited the bacterial strains that were isolated from the sediments of the Soummam wadi that were exposed to contamination by organic pollutants from various sources.

The main objectives of our work were: the determination of biodegradability potential of crude oil by hydrocarbonoclastic strains isolated from sediments of the Soummam wadi of Bejaia, Algeria; the production and characterization of biosurfactants. We also aimed to determine the chemical and biological profiles of biosurfactants produced by these isolated and identified strains.

2. Material and methods

2.1. Samples collection

The sediments samples were obtained from the bed of the Soummam wadi at the Skala bridge, Bejaia, Algeria (latitude: 36°43'58.89 "N, longitude: 4°04'04.47" E). The samples were taken at depths up to 60 cm and were collected by inserting a sterile corer into the sediments. Then, samples were transferred into a sterile bottle and transported immediately to the laboratory.

2.2. Physico-chemical analysis of sediments

Different physical and chemical analysis of sediments samples were carried out using standard methods to determined pH, conductivity, humidity, organic matter , total nitrogen by Kjeldahl method and granulometry (particle size).

2.3. Isolation of microorganisms and biosurfactant production evaluation

Hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria strains were isolated from the sediment samples of Soummam wadi using an enrichment technique method in mineral salt medium (MSM), with various hydrocarbons as the sole carbon source. The strains were characterized as *Alcaligenes*

faecalis, *Cellulosimicrobium* sp., and *Rhodococcus ruber* on the basis of phenotypic characterization and identification by MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry. Detection of biosurfactants production by these isolates was carried out by oil spreading test and measuring the emulsification index (E24) and were maintained as described previously (Yalaoui-Guellal et al., 2018).

2.4. Determination of biodegradability potential of Hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria strains

Biodegradation of petroleum samples using single pure culture was carried out in 250 mL Erlenmeyer flasks containing 100 mL of mineral-salts-medium (MSM) (Ijah et Antai, 2003) containing 2mL of crude petroleum from Hassi Masseaoud of Algeria (light crude petroleum) and inoculated with 2.0% (v/v) of the bacterial monoculture prepared in sterile physiological water and adjusted to obtain the same concentration for all monocultures. Control flasks were also placed containing only 100 mL of medium and 2 mL of crude oil. All culture flasks were incubated at 30°C with shaking at 130 rpm. The treatments were carried out in triplicate and incubated for up to 12 days and samples were analyzed every 3 days.

2.4.1. Determination of total bacterial biomass

The microbial population was determined by total bacterial biomass method using the dry weight of the cells. At the end of incubation of each period, the samples were centrifuged at 13.000 rpm for 15 min (Sigma 2-16 PK), then the pellet was recovered after washing with distilled water and then dried at 80°C. Biomass was estimated in mg/mL.

2.4.2. Determination of petroleum biodegradation by Hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria strains

The degraded total petroleum was estimated by measuring the residual crude oil, it was recovered by double extraction with diethyl ether (30 mL) and the solvent was separated after 1h and allowed to evaporate in the ventilated oven set at 40 ° C. The total biodegradation rate was determined gravimetrically using the equation described by Chaillan et al. (2004):

$$\%\boldsymbol{B} = [(\boldsymbol{W1} - \boldsymbol{WC})/\boldsymbol{W1}] * \mathbf{100}$$

Where, % B is the percentage of biodegradation of crude petroleum, W_1 is the residual oil weight in the sterile control and W_C is the residual oil weight in the bacterial culture.

2.5. Production, extraction and lyophilization of crude biosurfactants

The MSM containing 2% (v/v) of glucose and 0.1 g/L of yeast extract was used as the culture medium for biosurfactant production experiments. Biosurfactant production was carried out as described in our previous study (Yalaoui-Guellal et al., 2018).

2.6. Chemical profile of biosurfactant

2.6.1. UV-Visible spectrophotometer analysis and Thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis

A scanning absorption spectrum UV-Visible using UV-1800 SHIMADZU UV Spectrophotometer (Duisburg, F.R. Germany), was carried out with a wavelength ranging from 190-400 nm, in order to examine the presence of proteins and nucleic acids. For Thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis, a small amount of the lyophilized crude extract was dissolved in chloroform, and analyzed by TLC using silica gel60coated glass sheet (Silica gel $60F_{254}$, MERCK, Germany). The plates were developed in a solvent system: chloroform-methanol-acetic acid (6.5 /1.5 /0.2; v/v/v) for the detection of glucolipid and in a system: chloroform-methanol-water (65/15/4; v/v/v) to reveal the lipopeptide. When the development of plates has achieved, these last were heated at 110°C for 5-20 min .Spots were revealed by spraying with: (a) anthrone reagent (0.125mg in 63 mL H_2SO_4, 25 mL H_2O) for the detection of sugar moieties, for glycolipids system; (b) solution ninhydrine (35 mg in 100 mL acetone) for the detection of compounds with free amino groups for the lipopeptide system. (Smyth et al., 2014; Noparatet al., 2014).

2.6.2. Determination of protein and lipid content

Total protein content of biosurfactants was determined according to the method described by Bradford (1976) using Bovine Serum Albumin as standard. The lipid content was estimated by gravimetric estimation using the method of Bligh and Dyer (1959).

2.6.3. Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) Characterization

FTIR spectroscopy using the KBr pellet method was performed in this study to determine the chemical nature and functional groups of crude biosurfactant extracts using Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectrophotometer (IRaffinity-1, SHIMADZU). FTIR spectra were obtained in the spectral region 4000–400 cm^{-1} (Das et al., 2008).

2.7. Biological activities of biosurfactant

2.7.1. Antimicrobial activity

Crude biosurfactants extract was prepared in 1% (v/v) methanol and passed through a 0.22µm membrane filter and stored in sterile glass bottles. These stock solutions were utilized for antimicrobial testing as reported by Brahmi et al. (2016).

Antimicrobial assay of biosurfactants was investigated against test bacteria, filamentous fungi and yeast (Table 1) using a direct antagonism spot test. Each microbial inoculum was prepared from a pure and young culture (18-24 h for bacteria and 24-48 h for fungi).These cultures were adjusted at 0.5 McFarland turbidity scale (10^8 CFU/mL). Two mL of standardized suspensions of the microorganisms were deposited in Petri dishes contained 18 mL of Mueller-Hinton agar for bacteria strains or Potato Dextrose Agar for fungi strains.

The plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 h for bacteria strains and at 30°C for 48 h for fungi strains. The inhibition zones around the spots were measured. All the tests were carried out in triplicates and the diameter of microbial growth inhibition halo was measured in millimeters and was represented as the standard error of the mean (SE).

2.7.2. Antioxidant assay

Antioxydant activity of biosurfactants was carried using Radical Scavenging Activity of DPPH (2,2-diphényl-1-picrylhydrazyl) Method descrited by Blois (1958) with some modifications and total antioxidant capacity using the method described by Brahmi et al. (2012).

For the scavenger effect of biosurfactants towards $DPPH^{\bullet}$ radical, 0.5 mL of the DPPH solution (0.1 mM) was mixed with 1.5 mL of each crude biosurfactant at different concentrations (1-5 mg/mL). The mixtures were stirred vigorously and left at room temperature in the dark for 30 min. The absorbance of the solutions was then measured at 517 (SpectroScan 50 UV-Vis Spectrophotometer) and the percentage inhibition of the $DPPH^{\bullet}$ radical was calculated using the following equation:

$$\textit{Scavenger effect of } DPPH^{*} \textit{ (\%)} = [(A_0 - A_1) / A_0]^{*} 100$$

Where A_0 was the control absorbance and $A_1$was the sample absorbance. The antiradical activity was expressed in IC_{50} (µg/mL), which is the concentration required to cause a 50% inhibition. A low IC_{50} value corresponds to a high antioxidant activity of biosurfactant. Butylated Hydroxyanisole (BHA) was used as standard.

Reduction of phosphomolybdenum was calculated to determine the total antioxidant capacity of biosurfacants by using the method described by Brahmi et al. (2012). 2 mL of the Molybdate reagent (4mM ammonium molybdate, 28mM sodium phosphate and 0.6mM sulfuric acid) was added to 200 µL of each biosurfactant at different concentrations (1-5 mg/mL). After stirring, the tubes were incubated in the water bath at 90°C for 90min. After cooling, measurements were carried out at 695 nm (SpectroScan 50 UV-Vis Spectrophotometer). The results were expressed in IC_{50} (µg/mL). The biosurfactants ability of biosufacts to reduce Mo (VI) is compared with BHA.

2.7.3. Metal biosorption activity

The method used to determine the metal (Pb) biosorption capacity by the biosurfactant was that of Shuhong et al. (2014). The Pb^{2+} solution (100 ppm) was prepared by dissolving the calculated amount of lead nitrate in distilled water. Adsorption experiments were carried out by adding 10 mL of the metal solution in 40 mL of each crude biosurfactant solution to have a final biosurfactant concentration of 1% (w/v). A control was made with the metal solution. All experiments were incubated at room temperature with stirring (200 rpm) for 3 h. To study the pH effect on biosurfactant adsorption, the pH was adjusted at 3 and 7. At the end of incubation, the samples were centrifuged at 10.000 rpm and then filtered through a 0.45 μm cellulose acetate membrane filter. The Pb^{2+} residuals in the supernatants were determined by atomic adsorption spectrophotometer (AAS) (Thermo Scientific, iCE 3000 SERIES, AA Spectrometer).The biosorption capacity, Qe (mg/g), was determined by the following equation:

$$\boldsymbol{Qe = \frac{V(Ci - Ce)}{W}}$$

Where Ci and are the initial (control) and final (sample) metal (Pb) concentrations in the solutions (mg/L), respectively, V is the sample volume (L), and W is the biosurfactant mass(g).

2.8. Statistical analysis

Data from all experimental were presented as the mean ± standard deviation (SD) and were represented with error bars and one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was applied to ascertain significant differences between crude biosurfactants group and control. Differences were considered to be statistically significant at $P<0.05$. All analysis were performed using Statistica software (version 5.1).

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Physico-chemical analysis of sediments

The sediments samples examined had neutral pH of 7.37±0.05. Comparing our results with those of other studies, we find that our results are almost similar to those provided by Carpentier et al. (1999), where the pH varies between 7.06 and 7.76 in the month of December and from 7.2 to 8.2 in the month of March in the Seine basin (France). They have a total nitrogen content of 0.158 ± 0.008%. This result was very important compared to the result obtained by Cunqi et al. (2007), where the total nitrogen content was varied between 0.21 and 0.68 $g.kg^{-1}$ (0.021 and 0.068%) in the surface layer sediments in the Chongming Dongtan of the Yangtze Estuary (China).

According to Hwang and Lee (2002) the studied sample sediments had high humidity of 28.1 ± 0.2%.The sediment sample had a very high organic matter content (11.9±0.13%). Our results were almost similar to those found by Zhang et al. (2008), which recorded important values (49 and 6.3%) respectively in the Victoria estuary (China).

According to the scale of salinity which is based on the electrical conductivity of aqueous extract (Richards, 1969), the sediment sample was considered slightly salty having conductivity between 0.6 and 1.2 mS (1.01±0.03 mS). Kretschmara et al. (2008), measured an electrical conductivity of between 0.956 and 1.164 mS/cm in the sediments of various courses in Amsterdam (Holland). The results of particle size analysis (granulometric) of sediment samples revealed that the sediment sample had a mainly clay texture (37.93±0.43%) which have a strong adsorption of water and organic matter. This result confirms that granulometry can play an important role on sediment dryness (Zhou, 2009),

3.2. Hydrocarbonoclastic bacteria strains isolated and their biodegradation potential

The analysis of the potential of the biodegradability of *Alcaligenes faecalis*, *Cellulosimicrobium* and *Rhodococcus ruber* has demonstrated the ability of the latter to use the crude oil for their carbon source. The biodegradation percentage of the crude petroleum by *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. has reached the

maximum of 56.54±1.17%, 52.66±1.15 % and 49.69±1.2%, respectively, at the 12th day of incubation (Figure 1). The results for pure bacterial cultures showed a significant growth rate with the highest dry weight obtained by the strain *Rhodococcus ruber* that was 7.83±0.05 mg/mL, increased bacterial dry weight was correlated with the use of oil in the environment (Figure 1). These results were interesting compared with those obtained by Gao et al. (2015), which used 11 bacteria strains isolated from deep-sea sediments of South Mid-Atlantic Ridge to evalute their ability to degrade oil by incubating crude oil as a carbon source for 20 days. Different strains degraded 48-88% of the crude oil and and five strains can degrade more than 60% of the crude oil.

Bacterial strains *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. were demontrated thier ability to utilize crude petroleum as the sole source of carbon and energy.

3.3. Chemical profile of biosurfactants

3.3.1. UV-Visible spectrophotometer analysis and Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) analysis

biosurfactant samples due to the positive response by the appearance of absorption peaks in the ultraviolet spectrum. Characterization by TLC revealed pink spots with frontal ratios (Rf) of 0.63, 0.64 and 0.63 for the biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp., respectively, when sprayed with the ninhydrin reagent, indicating the presence of amino acids (Figure 2). The same profile of TLC was reported by Das et al. (2008), who studied a lipopeptide biosurfactant produced by *Bacillus circulans*. No spots were observed after spraying with the anthrone reagent which indicated the absence of sugar fractions.The above results confirmed the lipopeptide nature of the bio-surfactants which has been reported for other bacterial strains by Sriram et al. (2011) and Bezza and Chirwa (2015).

3.3.2. Protein and lipid contents

The protein and lipid contents of biosurfactant were differed in the biosurfactants. The protein content in biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* were 10.46 ± 0.39, 7.51 ± 0.30 and 4.32 ± 0.21%, respectively. As for the lipid, the highest content was noted for the biosurfactant produced by *Rhodococcus ruber* which was 64.16 ± 2.56%, whereas the lower levels were detected for the biosurfactants produced by *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. and *Alcaligenes faecalis* (59.0± 3.5%, 53.33 ± 2.88%, respectively). Sharma, et al. (2015) were indicate that the biosurfactant obtained from *Bacillus pumilus* DSVP18 grown on Potato Peels was composed of 14.7% protein and 18% lipid. These results confirm that the biosurfactants produced by Rhodococcus ruber, Alcaligenes faecalis and Cellulosimicrobium were indeed lipopeptides.

3.3.3. Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) Characterization

FTIR characterization of biosurfactants from the three isolates *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. showed identical spectra with varying absorption bands ranging from 3400 and 550 cm^{-1} (Figure 3). This similarity indicates that all biosurfactants have the same chemical nature. As shown in Figure 3, the FTIR spectra of the purified biosurfactants from the three stains showed strong absorbing bands at 3082 and 3312 cm^{-1} following elongation of the functional group NH and OH group, which was a characteristic of carbon-containing compounds with amine groups.The presence of an aliphatic chain was indicated by the C-H bonds of 2943 and 1439 -1385cm^{-1}. The strong absorption band at 1653 $cm^{-1}$was due to the amide band (C-O stretch in the peptide bond). Peaks around 1700 cm^{-1} represent the C = O grouping. Stretching groups C-O and C-O-C were also present in the 1223 and 1063 cm^{-1} ranges respectively.

The IR absorption diagram also revealed the presence of peptide and carboxyl groups that confirms their lipopeptide nature (Sousa et al., 2014; Sivapathasekaran et al., 2009; Sivapathasekaran et al., 2010; Sriram et al., 2011). Compared with a standard commercial

surfactin sample from Sigma-Chemical, Al-Wahaibi et al. (2014) reported the presence of similar functional groups (amide, peptides and aliphatics) in surfactin. This indicates that our biosurfactants and surfactin both absorbed at approximately the same wave number positions and showed anoverlapping pattern. This type of FTIR spectra is characteristic of lipopeptides, thus confirming the lipopeptide nature of the biosurfactants produced by the studied strains.

3.4. Biological activities of the biosurfactants

3.4.1. The antimicrobial activity

The antimicrobial properties of the biosurfactants produced micro-organisms of terrestrial origin have been widely reported. However, there have a little reports on microbial biosurfactants from marine origin (Das et al., 2008). In addition, there are no reports on antimicrobial activity of biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. isolated from Soummam wadi sediments.

The results of the antibacterial activity of these biosurfactants against bacteria *SARM* ATCC 43300, *S. aureus* NCCB 9163, *E. coli* ATCC 25922, *P. aeroginosa* ATCC 27853 and against fungi *A. niger* 939N, *A. flavus* NRRL 3251, *A. parasiticus* CB 5, *A. ochraceu*s NRRL 3174 and *C. albicans* are all represented in Table 2.

The biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber* showed higher activity against bacterial strains than against fungal ones. The clear zones presented a mean value of 18. 33±0.57and 16.33±0.57 for *A. flavus* NRRL 3251 and *A. parasiticus* CB 5, respectively (Table 2). While for other fungal strains, they showed lower activity where clear zones diameters ranging from 11.66 ± 0.57 to 12.66 ± 0.57mm. The inhibition zones indicated that antimicrobial activity of the compounds against *Staphylococcus aureus* showed a mean value of 12.66±0.57mm. The *E. coli* ATCC 25922 strain was the most sensitive with a clear zones diameter of 14.66 ± 0.57 mm while for *P. aeroginosa* ATCC 27853 the mean clear zones diameter was10.66±0.57 mm.

The activity against fungi strains was higher when compared to bacterial ones. These results are important since some these microorganisms have natural resistance to synthetic antibiotics. The isolated biosurfactants showed activity against both bacterial strains and fungi strains. Most of the lipopeptide biosurfactant showed activity against multidrug resistant pathogenic bacterial strains (Kitamoto et al., 1993; Singh and Cameotra2004;Das et al., 2008). However, antifungal action of biosurfactant against was scarcely reported.

3.4.2. Antioxidant activity of biosurfactants

All the biosurfactants studied showed lower antioxidant activity than the positive standard used (BHA) which gave the IC_{50} values of 7.1 ± 0.2 and 11.2 ± 0.3 µg / mL in the $DPPH^{\bullet}$ and the phosphomolybdate tests respectively. The results of the phosphomolybdate test revealed that the most important reductive activity was found for the biosurfactant produced by *Rhodococcus ruber* (1363.6 ± 3.2 µg /mL) and *Alcaligenes faecalis* (1445.8 ± 1.5 µg / mL) with a significant difference at $P<0.05$ compared to the biosurfactant produced by *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. (1661.3 ± 5.8 µg / mL).

The radical scavenging potential of the biosurfactants was carried with DPPH scavenging, the results were presented in the Table 3.The biosurfactant isolated from *Alcaligenes faecalis* showed better scavenger activity with an IC_{50} of 666.6± 0.1 µg/mL with a significant difference at $P<0.05$ than the biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber* (823.8±0.6 µg/mL) and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. (906.1 ± 0.7 µg/mL). Similar results have been reported by Bhosale et al. (2014) where their results indicate that lipopeptide biosurfactant from *Klebsiella pneumoniae* MSO-32 showed maximum scavenging effect on DPPH in the range of 76-78% at 10 mg/ml.

3.4.3. Metal biosorption activity

The results of Lead metal chelation by the biosurfactants isolated from the studied strains at different pH values is shown in Table 4. Qe is the biosorption capacity of the Lead metal,

expressed in milligram of lead per gram of biosurfactant.The results obtained showed the capacity of all biosurfactants to chelate the lead at different pHs, which has also shown its influence on this metal biosorption. Indeed, better biosorption was recorded at neutral pH (pH = 7) with a rate of 74.91 ± 2.1 mg/ g of biosurfactant produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*, followed by *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. with a quantity of 73.79 ± 1.84 mg/g of biosurfactant. While at this pH we recorded the lowest biosorption capacity of lead with a content of 45.34 ± 2.04 mg/g biosurfactant produced by *Alcaligenes faecalis*.

At acidic pH (pH = 3), we observed a decrease in chelation for the biosurfactants produced by *Rhodococcus ruber* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. Nevertheless, we recorded a significant lead biosorption of 66.94 ± 1.64 mg/ for the biosurfactant produced by *Alcaligenes faecalis*.

Biosurfactant biosorption capacity of heavy metals has been described by some researchers (Miller, 1995;Das et al., 2009). The biosorption capacity depends on the structures and functional groups of the adsorbent and the state, the size and energy of metal ions (Maalej, et al., 2014; Sarubbo et al., 2015). It has been reported that compounds with structures containing two or more of the following functional groups: OH, -COOH, C = O, -NR2, -S-, and -O- may show metal chelation activity (Qi et al., 2005).

4. Conclusion

In this study, *Alcaligenes faecalis*, *Rhodococcus ruber* and *Cellulosimicrobium* sp. isolated from Soummam wadi sediment were active crude petroleum degraders and biosurfactant producers. Their biosurfactants were mainly lipopeptide and were found to exhibit good metal biosorption, antimicrobial and antioxidant activities evaluated by different tests. This bacterial isolate may open up avenues for biosurfactants commercial feasibility in bioremediation of petroleum spills. Thus, their bioactive molecules can furnish a choice to the current chemical compounds and they may also find applications in many biotechnological and biopharmaceutical applications due to their biological properties. Future work should be

carried out in order to investigate the chemical structure and cellular toxicity of these compounds.

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Table 1: Different microorganisms tested with biosurfactants.

	Microorganisms tested	**References**
Gram+ Bacteria	*Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (SARM)*	ATCC 43300
	Staphylococcus. aureus	NCCB 9163
Gram- Bacteria	*Escherichia coli*	ATCC 25922
	Pseudomonas aeroginosa	ATCC 27853
Filamentous fungi	*Aspergillus niger*	939N
	Aspergillus flavus	NRRL 3251
	Aspergillus parasiticus	CB 5
	Aspergillus ochraceus	NRRL 3174
Yeast	*Candida albicans*	ATCC 1024

ATCC: American Type Culture Collection
NRRL: Netherlands Culture Collection of Bacteria

Table 2: Antimicrobial activity of crude biosurfactant produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*, *Alcaligenes faecalis* and *Cellulosimicrobium.*

	Antimicrobial zone diameter (mm)		
	Biosurfactant produced by		
Microorganismes	***Cellulosimicrobium* sp.**	***Alcaligenes faecalis***	***Rhodococcus ruber***
Bactrial strains			
SARM ATCC 43300	12.66±0.57[b]	11.66±0.57[c]	11.66±0.57[c]
*S. aureus*NCCB 9163	11.66±0.57[b, c]	12.66±0.57[b]	10.66±0.57[c]
E. coli ATCC 25922	10,66±0,57[c]	12.66±0.57[b]	14.66±0.57[a]
*P. aeroginosa*ATCC 27853	10.66±0.57[c]	9.66±0.57[c]	10.66±0.57[c]
Fungal strains			
*A. niger*939N	11.66±0.57[d]	11.66±0.57[d]	12.66±0.57[d]
*A. flavus*NRRL 3251	15.66±0.57[b]	18.33±0.57[a]	16.66±0.57[b]
*A. parasiticus*CB 5	15.16±0.57[c]	16,16±0,57[b, c]	16.33±0.57[b]
A. ochraceus NRRL 3174	11.66±0.57[d]	11.66±0.57[d]	11.66±0.57[d]
*C. albicans*ATCC 1024	11.66±0.57[d]	11.66±0.57[d]	12.33±0.57[d]

The values of clear zone diameter represent the mean ± SD of three independent readings.
Statistically significant difference with respect to crude biosurfactant $p < 0.05$

Table 3: IC_{50} values (μg / mL) of various tests of antioxidant activity of the biosurfactants studied.

	DPPH*	**Phosphpmolybdate test**
Biosurfactant isolated from *Cellulosimicrobium* sp.	906.1±0.7[d]	1661.3±5.8[d]
Biosurfactant isolated from *Alcaligenes faecalis*	666.6±0.1[b]	1445.8±1.5[c]
Biosurfactant isolated from *Rhodococcus ruber*	823.8±0.6[c]	1363.6±3.2[b]
BHA	7.1 ± 0.2[a]	11.2 ± 0.3[a]

BHA: Butylated Hydroxyanisole, Values shown are averages of three replicas ± standard error.
The different letters mean a significant difference at $p<0.05$.

Table 4: Lead biosorption capacity by biosurfactants studied at different pH.

Biosurfactant origin	**Qe (mg/g)**	
	pH =7	**pH =3**
***Cellulosimicrobium* sp.**	73.79±1.84[a]	57.25±1.81[b]
Alcaligenes faecalis	45.34±2.04[b]	66.94±1.64[a]
Rhodococcus ruber	74.91±2.1[a]	65.9±1.3[a]

Values shown are averages of three replicas ± standard error.
The different letters mean a significant difference at p <0.05.

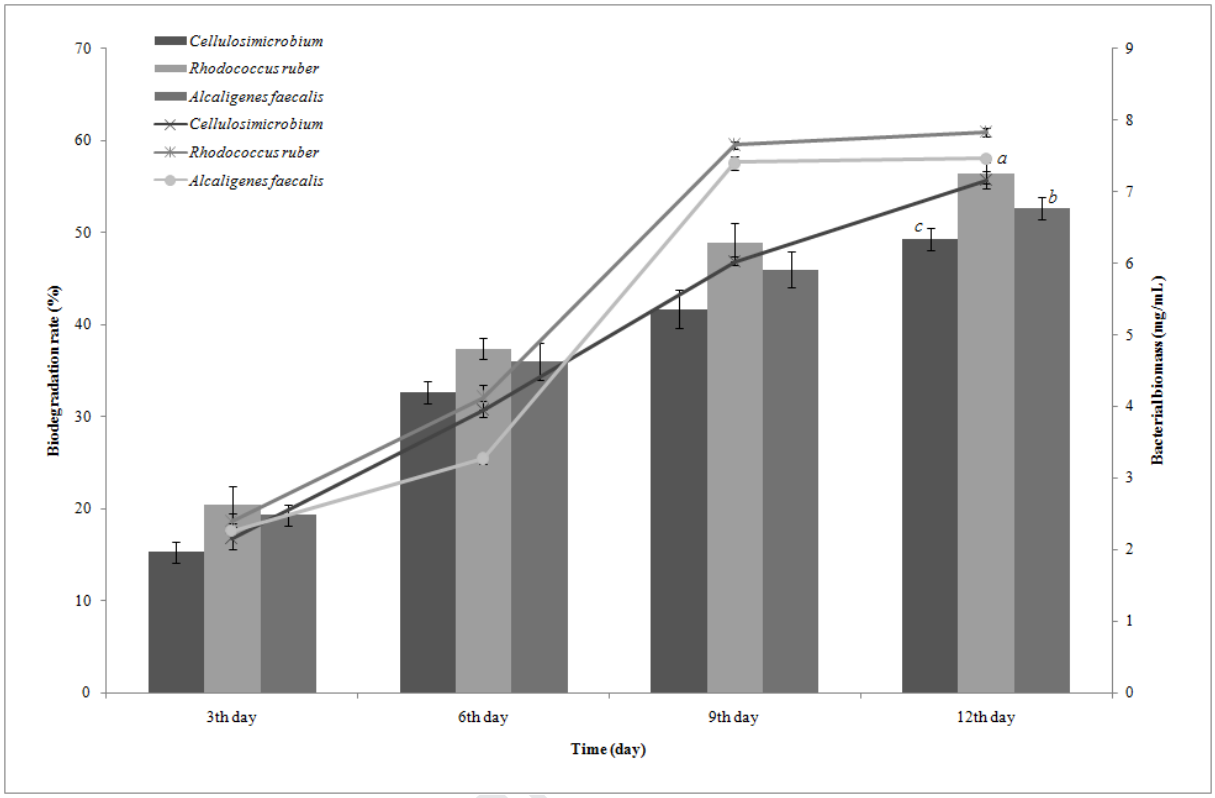

Figure 1. Biodegradation potential of crude petroleum and bacterial growth. The different letters: a, b and c mean a significant difference at $p<0.05$.

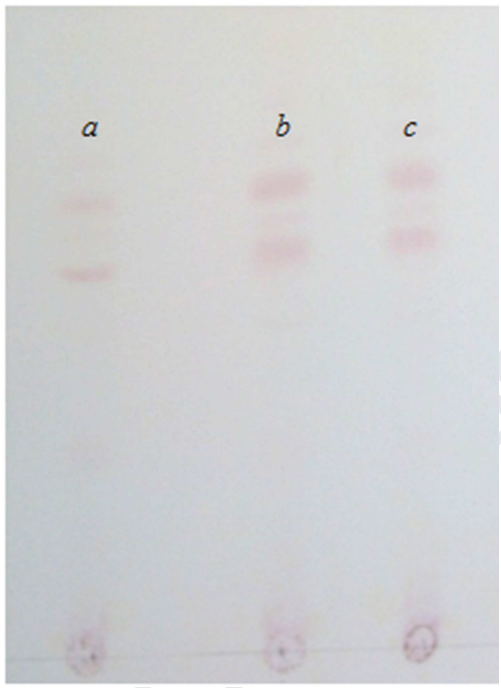

Figure 2.Thin layer chromatography of crude biosurfactants: *lane a*: crude biosurfactant fractions produced by *Cellulosimicrobium* sp., *lane b*: crude biosurfactant fractions produced by *Alcaligenes faecalis, lane c*: the crude biosurfactant fractions produced by *Rhodococcus ruber*

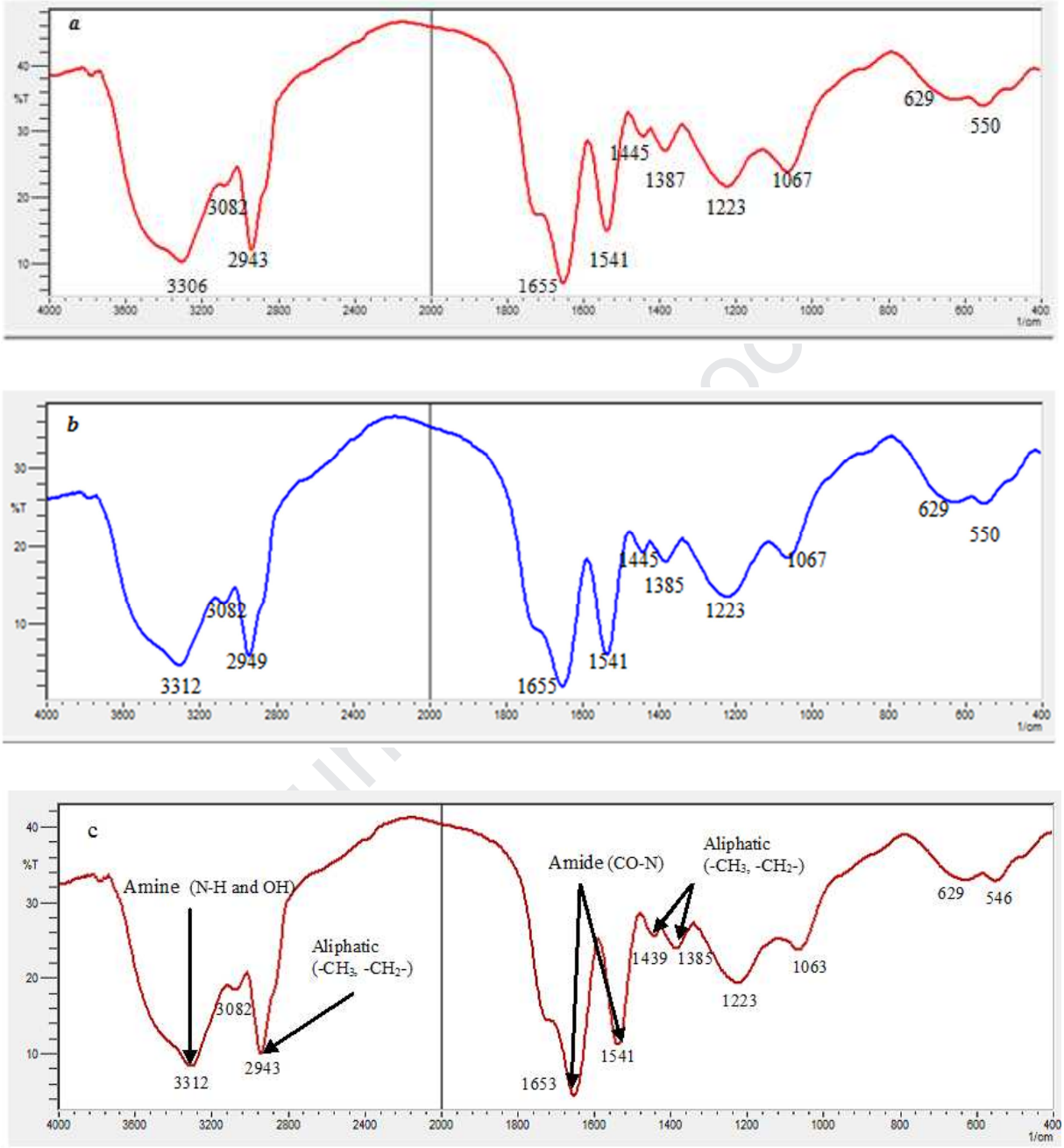

Figure 3. FTIR spectra of the purified biosurfactant samples produced by (a): *Cellulosimicrobium* sp., (b): *Alcaligenes faecalis* and (c): *Rhodococcus ruber*

Highlights

- Best petroleum degradation was shown by *Rhodococcus ruber* from sediment shorelines.

- Chemical profile study of their biosurfactant indicates their lipopeptide nature.

-These biosurfactants showed higher antifungal activity than antibacterial ones.

- Also, these biosurfactant prove their biosorption capacity of lead at different pH.